

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 05785 010403Z

67

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12

ACDA-07 /104 W

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O R 010333Z DEC 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1275

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TELAVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 5785

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, UNSC, XF

SUBJ: SECURITY COUNCIL ADOPTS RESOLUTION EXTENDING UNDOF
MANDATE

1. SUMMARY: SECURITY COUNCIL APPROVED DRAFT RESOLUTION
AND STATEMENT BY SC PRESIDENT (SEPTTEL) ON UNITED NATIONS
DISENGAGEMENT AND OBSERVER FORCE (UNDOF) DURING CONSULTATIONS
IN LATE MORNING NOV 30. SC MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN AFTERNOON
WHEN DRAFT RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY VOTE 12-0-0
(BENIN, CHINA, AND LIBYA NOT PARTICIPATING). SC PRESIDENT
WORKED BEHIND THE SCENES PRIOR TO CONSULTATIONS TO ARRIVE
AT FORMULA WHEREBY PREAMBULAR PARA 3 IN WORKING PAPER WAS
DELETED AT ISRAEL'S INSISTENCE AND SET FORTH INSTEAD IN
STATEMENT TO BE READ BY SC PRESIDENT FOLLOWING
ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION. MOST SC MEMBERS FELT OUTCOME OF
BEHIND-THE-SCENES EFFORTS REPRESENTED A SLIGHT
TACTICAL VICTORY FOR ISRAEL IN THE WORD CONTEST OF
PREPARING RESOLUTIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. SECURITY COUNCIL CONSULTATIONS IN MORNING, NOV 30,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USUN N 05785 010403Z

APPROVED FORMULA AS PROPOSED BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT ILLUECA

(PANAMA). PRESIDENT ILLUECA ANNOUNCED THAT FORMULA WAS WORKED OUT IN PRIVATE CONSULTATIONS WITH ISRAEL AND SYRIA, BOTH OF WHOM ACCEPTED IT. HE HOPED COUNCIL MEMBERS WOULD CONCUR AS WELL THUS ENABLING UNDOF RENEWAL IN AFTERNOON MEETING OF COUNCIL. FORMULA WAS SIMPLY TO DELETE PREAMBULAR PARA 3 FROM WORKING PAPER AND SET FORTH SAME PARA IN A SC PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT. IT WAS ALSO AGREED THAT CHINA AND LIBYA WOULD NOT ASSOCIATE THEMSELVES WITH THE STATEMENT, WHICH INDICATES THIS DISSOCIATION. COUNCIL MEETING IN AFTERNOON WAS DELAYED BY APPARENT MISUNDERSTANDING BETWEEN SC PRESIDENT AND SYRIAN PERMREP. LATTER HAD UNDERSTOOD FROM MORNING CONSULTATIONS THAT PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT WOULD BE CIRCULATED AS A SECURITY COUNCIL DOCUMENT, WHEREAS SC PRESIDENT UNDERSTOOD AND WAS PLANNING SIMPLY TO READ STATEMENT WHICH WOULD BE RECORDED IN THE VERBATIM RECORD OF THE SECURIT COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS. SC PRESIDENT CONFERRED WITH ISRAELI AMB HERZOG WHO ACCEPTED SYRIAN INTERPREATION OF HOW PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT WOULD BE CIRCULATED. COUNCIL THEN CONVENED WITH BOTH RESOLUTION AND PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT DISTRIBUTED TO MEMBERS AS SC DOCUMENTS.

3. AFTER VOTING (12-0-0 WITH BENIN, CHINA AND LIBYAN ARAB REPUBLIC NOT PARTICIPATING), PRESIDENT OF SC DELIVERED STATEMENT FOLLOWED BY BRIEF SPEECHES FROM ALL DELEGATIONS. MEMBERS' STATEMENTS IN LARGE PART CONSTITUTED REITERATION OF LAST MONTH'S PRESENTATIONS DURING SC DEBATE ON UNEF RENEWAL. USSR (OVINNIKOV) REPEATED ESTABLISHED SOVIET POSITIONS THAT ISRAEL CONTINUES TO BLOCK EXERCISE BY PALESTINIANS OF THEIR RIGHT TO CREATE OWN STATE; THAT PARTIAL AGREEMENTS PERMIT ISRAEL TO PROCEED WITH ANNEXATION OF ARAB TERRITORIES; AND SUCH AGREEMENTS ARE CONTRARY TO UN RESOLUTIONS, SINCE ONLY EFFECTIVE APPROACH IS ALL-EMBRACING PEACE SETTLEMENT. OVINNIKOV STATED THAT PLO SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE FOR WHICH USSR RECENTLY PUT FORWARD PROPOSED AGENDA. HE CONCLUDED BY APPEALING FOR ECONOMY IN PEACEKEEPING FORCES, CUTTING EXPENDITURES WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

4. OTHER DELEGATIONS FAIRLY CONSISTENTLY QUOTED FROM SYG'S REPORT THAT SITUATION IN MIDDLE EAST WILL REMAIN UNSTABLE AND POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS UNLESS PROGRESS IS MADE TOWARD A JUST CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USUN N 05785 010403Z

AND LASTING SETTLEMENT, REGRETTEED THAT MORE PROGRESS HAS NOT TAKEN PLACE, AND NOTED THAT UNDOF FUNCTIONS IN AN EFFORT TO FOSTER PEACE IN AREA BUT SHOULD NOT BE VIEWED AS A PERMANENT INSTITUTION. NONALIGNED SC MEMBERS PAID TRIBUTE TO SYRIA'S CONTRIBUTION TOWARD PEACE IN RENEWING UNDOF SINCE PEACEKEEPING FORCES ARE OPERATING ON SYRIAN TERRITORY. BENIN EXPLAINED ITS NON-PARTICIPATION AS REPRESENTING ACCURATELY INSTRUCTIONS RECEIVED FROM COTONOU. (NOTE:

BENIN'S ACTION SURPRISED COUNCIL, AND BENIN DEL SAID FOLLOWING SC MEETING THAT HE HAD NO INKLING OF WHY HIS INSTRUCTIONS DIFFERED FROM UNEF RENEWAL LAST MONTH WHEN BENIN VOTED IN FAVOR OF RESOLUTION.) NEITHER ISRAELI NOR SYRIAN PERMREP SPOKE, AS AGREED IN ADVANCE WITH SC PRESIDENT, I.E., THAT NEITHER WOULD SPEAK AS LONG AS THE OTHER DID NOT.

5. COMMENT: SEVERAL COUNCIL MEMBERS(EUROPEANS, JAPAN) TENDED INITIALLY TO FAULT SC PRESIDENT ILLUECA FOR NOT HOLDING TO ORIGINAL INTENTION OF PREPARING DRAFT RESOLUTION FOLLOWING AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE MODEL OF MAY 1976 UNDOF RENEWAL RESOLUTION AND FOR PRESUMABLY TAKING PARTISAN ROLE AS COSPONSOR OF WORKING PAPER. HOWEVER, HIS PERSISTENCE IN WORKING OUT TEXT ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH PARTIES HELPED TO RESTORE HIS IMAGE AS EFFECTIVE SC PRESIDENT.

6. IN EVALUATING RELATIVE GAINS AND LOSSES OF POSITION OF THE PARTIES IN THIS RENEWAL DEBATE, SYRIA IS PROBABLY DOWN SEVERAL POINTS. SYRIA LOST TO THE SECRETARIAT IN ITS REQUEST TO HAVE ITS LETTER (USUN 5553) INCLUDED IN SYG'S REPORT, LOST AGAIN TO THE SECRETARIAT IN ITS FURTHER REQUEST TO HAVE SYG, WHEN INTRODUCING HIS REPORT, INCLUDE REFERENCE TO SYRIAN LETTER (SYG ELECTED NOT TO INTRODUCE HIS REPORT AT ALL AT THE COUNCIL MEETING), AND THEN AGREED TO THE DELETION OF PREAMBULAR PARA 3 OF DRAFT RESOLUTION WHICH WAS WIDELY BELIEVED TO BE A SYRIAN INITIATIVE. AMB HERZOG COMMENTED TO MISOFF THAT UPHOLDING THE PRINCIPLE OF NOT ACCEPTING CHANGES IN UNEF/UNDOF MANDATE RENEWAL RESOLUTIONS WAS A MATTER HE AND GOI INDEED TOOK SERIOUSLY. HE FELT HIS INSISTENCE WAS JUSTIFIED.

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